

Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety  
Meeting Minutes Summary  
Location: Lacey, WA  
**April 20, 2004**

**Present**

Chuck Mosher, Chair  
Shirley Olson  
George Hills  
Richard Kuprewicz  
Ken Thomas  
Duane Henderson  
Carl Weimer  
Don Evans

**Absent**

Les Olson  
Pat Morgan  
Grant Jensen

**Public present at the meeting**

Nate Moxley, Community Coalition for Environmental Justice  
Earl Tower, BP Olympic Pipeline Company  
Katie Hansen, Washington State City/County Pipeline Safety Consortium  
Alan Rathbun, WUTC Pipeline Safety  
Lindsay Marquez, WUTC Pipeline Safety  
Steve King, WUTC Safety & Consumer Protection

**Agenda:**

1. Welcome & adoption of March 23, 2004 Meeting Minutes
2. Public Comment
3. OPS Civil Penalty Imposed on Olympic Pipeline
4. Information from the Meeting of the National Association of State Fire Marshal's
5. Follow-up on Committee Workplan
6. WUTC Pipeline Safety Public Outreach – Next Steps
7. WUTC Pipeline Safety Section Update
8. Agenda Items for the Next Meeting

1. **Welcome** – Chairman Chuck Mosher welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Washington State Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety. The March 23, 2004 meeting minutes were approved as amended by committee member Rick Kuprewicz.
2. **Public Comment** – Katie Hansen, representing the Washington State City & County Pipeline Safety Consortium, updated the Committee on the decision of Sedro Woolley to rescind the emergency setback ordinance (initially proposed as a 25 foot additional setback from the pipeline corridor). Ms. Hansen attended the Sedro Woolley city council meeting and informed the committee that the citizens of Sedro Woolley did not want the setback ordinance because they were concerned it would decrease property values and create limitations on their ability to build. Nate Moxley, with the Community Coalition for Environmental Justice (Seattle), noticed that the communication regarding pipelines on the eastside of the Seattle area is different (and possibly better)

than that in the westside of Seattle. Mr. Moxley and the coalition feel strongly that the communication with the pipeline companies and the citizens needs to be improved, especially in the New Holly area of Seattle where a majority of the population does not speak English. The coalition feels that the pipeline companies (BP Olympic Pipeline specifically) should hold public meetings for better communication and post pipeline marker in different languages. Mr. Moxley also informed the committee that he and some members of the coalition would be meeting with Bobby Talley of BP Olympic Pipeline Company to discuss these issues.

3. **OPS Civil Penalty Imposed on Olympic Pipeline** – The committee sent a letter to U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary, Norman Mineta on March 12, 2004. The letter urged the Office of Pipeline Safety to collect the fines imposed on Olympic Pipeline Company for the explosion in Bellingham that occurred in June 1999. Committee member Carl Weimer noted that the letter did not give specific reference to the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (this Act requires the U.S. DOT to respond to recommendations from state citizens committee within 90 days). Alan Rathbun, WUTC Pipeline Safety Director, informed the committee that a response was not yet received from Secretary Mineta as of the date of the meeting. The committee decided to wait until the 90 days have expired (June 12, 2004) before taking action and writing another letter.
4. **Information from the Meeting of the National Association of State Fire Marshal's** – The committee was given an update from Chairman Chuck Mosher of the meeting of the National Association of State Fire Marshal's that was held at the beginning of April. The meeting was intended to share the pipeline safety objectives, like pipeline safety training for first responder and damage prevention. Defining and identifying high consequence areas and asking OPS to consider the Association's definition is another topic they're focusing on. The Association requested information from the committee like the committee's 2002 & 2003 annual reports and the WUTC Public Outreach Report.
5. **2004 Committee Planning Session** – The Committee decided to separate their workplan into three areas:
  - a) Topics of interest that they would like to receive periodic updates and information on, as needed,
  - b) Placeholder items that will be reviewed as the need arises,
  - c) Workplan items – The committee will be actively participating and focusing on these issues during meetings and via e-mails/teleconferences.

The table below lists the items that the committee will be focusing on within each category.

<b>Topics of Interest (Receive Updates)</b>	<b>"Placeholder"</b>	<b>Workplan Items</b>
WUTC Inspections/Violations/Penalties	Respond to State & Federal Rulemakings	Public Awareness – Public right to know (about pipeline information).
City/County Consortium – Fall 2004 Workshops on zoning, setbacks & encroachments for local governments.	Budget submissions & related resource needs.	
Damage Prevention – Updates on the efforts of the Regional Common Ground Alliance		
Risk Management – Updates from the WUTC on the implementation of risk		

into the pipeline safety program		
WUTC Action Plan on Public Awareness		

The committee made the decision to only form subcommittees as the need for them arises.

6. **WUTC Pipeline Safety Public Outreach – Next Steps** – The WUTC distributed the final draft report of the public outreach project conducted by the Frause Group. The report presents the same findings that Tim Sweeney (WUTC) presented to the committee at the March 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. The WUTC also reported that they will be attending a meeting of the Northwest Gas Association (some liquid operators will also be in attendance) to discuss how the public outreach project can be used in conjunction with American Petroleum Institute Recommended Practice 1162, which also deals with pipeline public awareness.
7. **WUTC Pipeline Safety Section Update** – Alan Rathbun, WUTC Pipeline Safety Director, gave an update on the current events in the pipeline safety section.

**Williams Pipeline – Amended Corrective Action Order Update:**

On Friday, April 16, the WUTC distributed to the committee the Post Hearing Decision issued by OPS on April 9. The document is OPS' official response to the issues raised by Williams in the January 26, 2004 hearing requesting clarification on the Amended CAO following the Toledo rupture. Further, this document proposes two amendments to the CAO. One amendment requires Williams to submit procedures for communicating actions associated with the CAO to federal, state and local officials. The second addition requires Williams to give monthly updates to the Western Region Director related to elements of the CAO. The two added items are subject to challenge by Williams.

Williams is continuing the hydrostatic pressure testing of those segments of their 26-inch pipeline that they desire a temporary return to service. A total of 15.9 miles between Mt. Vernon and Snohomish has been tested and a request for return to service has been delivered to OPS. Three hydrostatic test crews, under contract with Williams, are currently performing tests under the observation of WUTC inspectors. One crew is operating between Ft. Lewis and Chehalis. A second crew is testing between Sumas and Mt. Vernon and the third is between Chehalis and Washougal. This work is putting a significant burden on Pipeline Safety staff. OPS Western Region is flying a staff member out to help later this week.

**BP Olympic Update:**

Olympic's operating pressure continues at 80% of maximum operating pressure. Six out of the eleven Olympic Pipeline segments have had all repair programs under the CAO completed. There are no operational benefits to raising the pressure in these segments until the main segments are completed. At present, OPL is targeting a return to 100% maximum operating pressure in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2005.

No substantial changes related to the Kamber Road project. Qwest has submitted design plans for repair of their conduit to both the City of Bellevue and OPL. The WUTC has not received any updated plans from King County related to the permanent repair of their trunk sewer in Kamber. OPL ran another smart pig through this line segment in March. No further deformation noted in the pipeline, therefore illustrating the continued stability of the 20-inch pipeline.

**OPS Natural Gas Integrity Management Rule**

This rule became effective in December 2003. Company compliance including baseline assessments is due December 2004. OPS has been developing protocol and frequently asked questions to serve as

guidance to both companies and regulators. A public meeting on this new set of regulations is scheduled for May 11-12 in Houston.

#### WUTC Natural Gas Safety Rulemaking

The rulemaking has been in progress for the past couple of years. The Small Business Economic Impact Statement for the new rules was distributed to companies in April with responses due May 5. An open meeting before the Commission to consider the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (CR-102) is scheduled for June 9. An open meeting to consider adoption is anticipated by the end of October.

#### 2005-2007 Budget Preparation

The WUTC has started preparation of budget documents for the 05-07 biennium, which will be considered during the 2005 legislation session. Final budget submission by the agency will take place in early September. However, if the Committee wishes to consider any unmet needs or budget proposals, they should be brought forward no later than June. A copy of the strategic plan for the Pipeline Safety Section was shared with the Committee.

8. **Other Items** – The committee decided upon the general letterhead that put all committee members' names on the top of the letterhead in alphabetical order. The issue was brought up at the March 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting that the all letters from the committee should have all committee members' signatures on it. To ensure that letters go out in a timely manner, the committee decided to have the Chair continue to sign the letters on the new letterhead with all committee member's names it.
9. **Agenda Items for the Next Meeting** – The next meeting of the Washington State Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety will be held on June 15<sup>th</sup>. The meeting location will most likely be in Tacoma. Agenda items requested for the next meeting were:
  - a) Budget discussion from WUTC
  - b) Inspection and staffing/workload update